

Brethren Evangelist

"I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life."—Jesus

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Twentieth Century Problems

A writer says that according to the present state of affairs the Vanderbilt fortune and one or two others like it are destined to absorb by the law of gravitation all the money in America. The rapid accumulation of vast fortunes, such as the world never dreamed before, will undoubtedly give rise to several social and political problems in the coming century. When a few men will become more powerful than the government, what will become of the liberties of the people? How will it effect the purity and impartiality of the law? And since over against the great wealth is always found a corresponding depth of poverty, with its dangerous discontent, what effect will it have upon the growth of anarchy? Then there is the looming problem of militaryism. Already we see a policy inaugurated which is calling for a larger army. Under the guise of expansion and patriotism, the combined and combining wealth of the great cities is beginning to

Behind a drunkard's murderous attack upon his helpless wife and little children is the saloon which supplied the liquor; behind the saloon is the law which licensed it; behind the law stand the law-makers, and behind these is the voter. Where does the fearful responsibility lodge?

build up its historic bulwark, a powerful army. No matter that history tells us that always the army has been the destruction of republics and the executioner of liberty. Unlimited greed knows by the same light of history that its only protection against the robbed and aroused populace, the only method by which that populace can be kept in a state of tributary serfdom, lies in numerous regiments and powerful artillery.

Then there is the problem of the saloon yet unsolved. Life in the next century is going to be intense. What a stirring of men's minds, what conflicts of mighty forces, what political convulsions, what social upheavals there will be. It will be a time when lovers of peace and righteousness will look around anxiously for a conservative force, for that steadiness of principle, that soundness of mind, that courage and faith which have always constituted the saving elements in society and steered the frail bark of State thro dangerous breakers. Can that conservative force be found anywhere else but in the religion of the New Testament, crystalized in the hearts of men? Their saving office

as the salt of the earth and the light of the world will be needed more than ever in the coming century. The only fear is that the salt will lose its savor. There is a manifest call for a more pronounced intensity, a greater earnestness, a fuller consecration, a more thorough training upon the part of Christians. Strong men and not weaklings will be the demand of the next century. Never before since the beginning of time did such glorious opportunities present themselves to the young as in these closing years of the nineteenth century. Will they accept them? Never before were such doors of usefulness open to them as there are today. Will they be wise and enter in? The next few years have wrapped up in them almost infinite possibilities for the young man who has sufficient intellectual keenness and prophetic vision to grasp them. The golden age of

which the poet sings is not yet in the past. ~~It is in the~~ future, it is awaiting the coming century, and it remains for every child of humanity to hasten its approach and usher it in in all its fulness.

The present century will carry over with it into the next intricate and perplexing problems, problems that demand solutions, and who shall work out these solutions? It rests with the young people of today who with the dawn of the twentieth century will merge into the full fruition of manhood? Will they be ready for the awful responsibilities which these years will thrust upon them? What a career will open before our young men who are now laying the foundations for their life work. As the athlete trains for a terrible battle, as the soldier trains for an arduous and dangerous campaign, let the young men who mean to be somebody in the world train for the career which opens before him; and above all things, into that future so pregnant with the mighty issues of the human race, into that century which is likely to witness the climax of human history, the converging of all its mightiest forces, let him take, above all things, let him take, CHRIST.

Responsive service.—Paul: "This one thing I do."

Modern Professor: "This one thing I half do."